

Sustainable Southampton Committee

January 5, 2010

Committee Members in Attendance: Tip Brolin (Chair), Scott Carlin, Sheryl Heather, Dorothy Reilly, Ann Reisman, Paul Rogers and Anna Throne-Holst

Committee Members Not in Attendance: M. Ross Baldwin, Bob DeLuca, Nancy Graboski, Tony Panza and Janice Scherer

Also in Attendance: Jennifer Garvey (Executive Confidential Assistant to the Supervisor), Dieter von Lehsten (Lakes and Ponds Committee), Kate Schertel (Group for the East End) and Frank Zappone (Deputy Supervisor)

Approval of Minutes: Approval of minutes from the December 15th, 2009 meeting was postponed.

Committee Membership: Tip reminded everyone that there was a consensus to limit committee membership to 12 people. He sent a list of potential new members to Anna Throne-Holst via e-mail before the end of 2009. **Jennifer Garvey agreed to follow up on this and ensure a resolution would be drafted to adopt the changes.**

Sustainability Coordinator Interviews: Tip noted that several interviews have been completed and two additional are scheduled for Tuesday, January 12th at 1:00 p.m. (Subsequently rescheduled to 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.). The Town Board will interview one or more finalist candidates, once the initial interviews are complete.

Commercial Building Energy Efficiency Legislation: Paul Rogers has spoken to several people about testifying in support of this legislation on January 12th (Subsequently rescheduled to February 9th). He noted that he has reached out to the local Peconic chapter of the American Institute of Architects, who issued a notice about the legislation to its membership. Several individuals in the architectural field indicated they would be attending to lend support. **Paul Rogers agreed to send a copy of the current legislation to Sheryl Heather so she could review it with an appropriate person who would testify on behalf of the Business Alliance.**

There was some discussion about "sick house syndrome" as a result of these efficiency standards for residential and commercial buildings. Several committee members indicated that Energy Star standards require ventilation, which would mitigate any air quality issues. **Paul Rogers agreed to research whether there have been reports of homes or commercial buildings being too "tight" and causing an unhealthy build up of toxins such as carbon monoxide.** If a significant amount of such reports are found, the committee will explore including a measure to reevaluate the law over a period of time and ensure safety concerns are addressed.

Formula Grant Funding: Ann Reisman reported the Town was awarded \$206,600 from the Federal government, which may have already been received. **A representative from the Town is following up to find out whether the money has arrived, and if not, when it should be expected.**

Adopt a Highway Program: Tip reported that Ross Baldwin suggested the Sustainable Southampton Committee adopt a highway. After some discussion, there was a consensus that the committee would not have adequate time to maintain such litter removal a program.

Green Committee Meetings with Town Board Members: Tip has asked for an appointment with Jim Malone to review his ideas for sustainability in the Town. He will also reach out to other Town Board members to find out how we can work together to improve Southampton. There was also some discussion regarding an interface between the committee and the Town Trustees. A committee member focused on clean water issues would be the best liaison, or a member of the Trustees could be an official member. Dieter Von Lehsten noted that he had been designated by the Trustees to fulfill that role and he was welcomed by the committee.

Recycling Recommendations: Scott Carlin reported that the Citizens Campaign for the Environment produced a recycling report card for 2009, and Southampton received a low grade. Scott reviewed the document to find out where Southampton was losing points and noted several areas to the committee. Anna Throne-Holst suggested communicating this information to the newly reestablished Solid Waste Advisory Committee and allowing them to move forward on this effort. Scott Carlin agreed to speak with the advisory committee to find out how they would be structured and whether they could take on this initiative. He also suggested organizing a follow-up event to "Talkin' Trash" this spring.

Action Items: Tip Brolin asked Anna whether the Town intends to proceed with the various action items recommended by the Sustainable Southampton Committee. For example, Tip reminded the committee of its recommendation for the Town to install a demonstration wind turbine on Town property. Anna noted the Town (Marty Shea) is working to revise the code with regard to wind turbines, which would halt this process for the time being. **Tip and Dorothy Reilly agreed to decide who on the committee would work with Marty to shape the code and establish a timeline for completion of code revisions and adoption of these changes.** (Subsequent to the meeting it was decided that Tip would do this.)

Town Interns: Ann Reisman reported that she has spoken to a representative from Stony Brook Southampton regarding possible interns who would complete specific sustainability projects for the Town. If two students are available and someone at the Town could supervise them, the interns could begin in the first week of February. Jennifer Garvey agreed to supervise the interns with guidance from Anna Throne-Holst and the committee. Interns would receive college credit for their activities, so the Town would not be required to expense any funds. There was consensus to move forward on the Municipal Vehicle Inventory internship as outlined by Ann Reisman. **Ann, Dorothy and Sheryl agreed to communicate with Jennifer Garvey to solidify the internship goals and objectives.**

LIPA Recommendations: Tip agreed to reach out to Peter Gaudiello regarding the implementation of LIPA's recommendations to improve energy efficiency in Town Hall after the grant funds have been received. Some of the funding from the formula grant is allocated for this effort.

Procurement Policies: Tip reported that the Town is trying to find out which "green" products are on the Suffolk County procurement list. Once a full list is compiled, Southampton Town will evaluate whether or not they will adopt a partial or full list of these approved items for future procurement by the Town.

No-Idling Ordinance: Sheryl prepared a short report for the Business Alliance on the proposed legislation and has received no significant negative feedback. It was suggested the Town adopt a resolution for an ordinance and then conduct outreach to educate the public with signage in logical places (schools, post offices, transfer station, etc.). **Sheryl agreed to e-mail her report to the committee and to present a schedule for adopting the law at the next meeting.**

Commercial Wind Energy: Tip noted the Town would not have the funds available in the near future for

conducting a feasibility study regarding commercial wind energy. **Dorothy Reilly agreed to reach out to an anonymous group of citizens who are currently researching the potential for commercial wind energy, which could be profitable for the Town.** Depending on whether they are ready to share the information they have collected, she will invite them to share their findings with the committee.

New Business: **Dorothy Reilly asked whether the committee could review maps of Town-owned land and she agreed to lead a discussion at the next meeting regarding the use of key parcels.** The next meeting was scheduled for January 19th at 3:30 p.m. As there was no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.